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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/681,303	03/15/2001	Samuel F. Liprie	INE-0044-C2	9542
23413	7590	11/22/2004	EXAMINER	
CANTOR COLBURN, LLP			KEITH, JACK W	
55 GRIFFIN ROAD SOUTH			ART UNIT	
BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002			PAPER NUMBER	

3641

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINERS ANSWER

1. Serial No. 09/681,303 was remanded from the Board of Patent Appeals and interferences on 4/19/2004 due to claims 13 and 14 not corresponding to the last amended version.

Paper no. 6 improperly amended claim 14. The examiner pointed this out in Paper no. 12. Amended claim 14, per Paper no. 12, would be treated as claim 13 and that any rejection applying to old claim 14 would fall under any rejection of claims 2 and 24.

Applicant in Paper no. 14 properly revised claim 13 to read as previously amended claim 14 of Paper no. 6. Applicant did not reintroduce original claim 14. However, it did not appear to be necessary as the examiner had never considered original claim 14 to be revised or canceled.

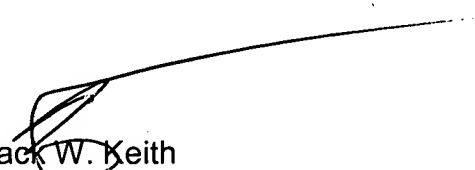
A revised clean version of the claims 1-31 is attached hereto.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack W. Keith whose telephone number is (703) 306-5752. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:30-5 p.m., with Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone can be reached on (703) 306-4198. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3641

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jack W. Keith
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3641

jwk
November 17, 2004

Appendix I

[c1]

1. A flexible source wire for radiation treatment of diseases within a body comprising:

a flexible, hollow, elongated housing tube having a distal end and a proximal end, said housing tube constructed from a material exhibiting little or no memory retention when bent;

a flexible backbone wire having a proximal end, said proximal end of said wire being disposed in said housing tube; and

a radiation source or sources provided within said housing tube, said proximal end of said flexible backbone wire being adjacent to said radiation source or sources.

[c2]

2. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 1 including a plug which is sealed to said proximal end of said housing tube.

[c3]

3. The flexible source wire of claim 1, wherein said radioactive source is encapsulated within a neutron permeable material.

[c4]

4. The flexible source wire of claim 1, wherein said radioactive source is included within a thin walled-capsule.

Art Unit: 3641

[c5]

5. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 1, wherein said backbone wire is completely disposed in said housing tube.

[c6]

6. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 1 wherein a portion of the inner surface of said proximal end of said housing tube exhibits a tapered funnel shape for ease of loading said radioactive source or sources within said flexible housing tube.

[c7]

7. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 4 wherein at least one end of said capsule is rounded.

[c8]

8. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 3 wherein at least one end of said encapsulated radioactive source or sources is rounded.

[c9]

9. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 1 wherein said backbone wire is affixed to the interior wall of said flexible housing tube at one or more locations.

[c10]

10. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 1, wherein said backbone wire includes a distal end, and wherein said distal end is disposed within said tube.

[c11]

11. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 1 wherein the outer surface of said housing tube is coated with a non-oxidizing agent.

[c12]

12. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 13 wherein said non-oxidizing agent is gold.

[c13]

13. A flexible source wire for radiation treatment of diseases within a body comprising:

a flexible, hollow, elongated housing tube having a distal end and a proximal end, said housing tube constructed from a material exhibiting little or no memory retention when bent;

a flexible backbone wire having a proximal end, said proximal end of said wire inserted into said tube, and further wherein the proximal end of said backbone wire is rounded; and

a radiation source or sources provided within said housing tube.

[c14]

14. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 13 further including a plug, which is sealed to said proximal end of said housing tube.

[c15]

15. The flexible source wire of claim 13 wherein a portion of the inner surface of said proximal end of said housing tube exhibits a tapered funnel shape for ease of loading said radioactive source or sources within said flexible housing tube.

[c16]

16. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 13 wherein at least one end of said capsule is rounded.

[c17]

17. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 13, wherein said backbone wire is affixed to the interior wall of said flexible housing tube at one or more locations.

[c18]

18. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 13 wherein the outer surface of said housing tube is coated with a non-oxidizing agent.

[c19]

19. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 18 wherein said non-oxidizing agent is gold.

[c20]

20. The flexible source wire of claim 13, wherein the radioactive source is encapsulated within a neutron permeable material.

[c21]

21. The flexible source wire of claim 13, wherein the radioactive source is included within a thin-walled capsule.

[c22]

22. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 13, wherein said backbone wire is completely inserted in said housing tube.

[c23]

23. The flexible source wire of claim 13, wherein the backbone wire includes a distal end, and wherein said backbone wire is completely inserted such that the distal end is disposed within the tube.

[c24]

24. A flexible source wire for radiation treatment of diseases within a body comprising:

a flexible, hollow, elongated housing tube having a distal end and a proximal end, said housing tube constructed from a material exhibiting little or no memory retention when bent;

a flexible backbone wire having a proximal end, said proximal end of said wire inserted into said tube;

a capsule inserted into said proximal end of said flexible elongated housing tube;

a radiation source or sources inserted into said capsule; and

a plug which seals said proximal end of said housing tube.

[c25]

25. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 24 wherein a portion of the inner surface of said proximal end of said housing tube exhibits a tapered funnel shape for ease of loading said radioactive source or sources within said flexible housing tube.

[c26]

26. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 24 wherein at least one end of said capsule is rounded.

[c27]

27. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 24 wherein said backbone wire is affixed to the interior wall of said flexible housing tube at one or more locations.

[c28]

28. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 24 wherein the outer surface of said housing tube is coated with a non-oxidizing agent.

[c29]

29. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 28 wherein said non-oxidizing agent is gold.

[c30]

30. The flexible source wire in accordance with claim 24, wherein said backbone wire is completely disposed in said housing tube.

Art Unit: 3641

[c31]

31. The flexible source wire of claim 24, wherein the backbone wire includes a distal end, and wherein the backbone wire is disposed completely within the tube such that the distal end is disposed within the tube.